





THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, TUESDAY, MAY 11, 1869

recommending that kerbing and guttering on the east side of George-street, between Backhurst and Liverpool streets, be repaired or renewed, and three gullies laid, at a cost not exceeding £85, be adopted."

Seconded by ALDERMAN MACINTOSH, and carried.

COOK WARD.

ALDERMAN KIPPAX moved,—"That the report of the Improvement Committee, received on the 19th ultimo, recommending that four gully shafts be laid in Yrean-street, between Yurong and Riley streets, at a cost of

be adopted.—That the report of the Improvement Com-  
mittee, received on the 19th ultimo, recommending  
four gully shafts be laid in Liverpool and Riley str.  
at a cost of £40, be adopted.—That the report of the Water  
Committee, received on the 19th ultimo, recommending a  
petition, that a 3-inch watermain be laid in Gay's-lane, at  
a cost of £41, be adopted.—That the report of the Sewerage  
Committee, received on the 19th ultimo, recommending a  
petition, that stoneware sewers be laid

Seconded by Alderman STERN, and carried.

Alderman STEPL moved,—"That the report of the Improvement Committee, received on the 19th ultimo, recommending that kerbing and guttering be laid on the north side of Cooper-street, between Elizabeth and Riley streets, at a cost of £40, be adopted."

Seconded by Alderman KIRKPAT, and carried.

FITZROY moved,—"That the report of the Improvement Committee, received on the 19th ultimo, recommending that kerbing and guttering be laid on the north side of Cooper-street, between Elizabeth and Riley streets, at a cost of £40, be adopted."

Seconded by Alderman KIRKPAT, and carried.

Alderman BUTLER moved,—"That the report of the Improvement Committee, received on the 19th ultimo, recommending that kerbing and guttering be laid on the north side of Cooper-street, between Elizabeth and Riley streets, at a cost of £40, be adopted."

Seconded by Alderman KIRKPAT, and carried.

Lighting Committee, received on the 19th ultimo, recommending that a public lamp be erected in Barry-street, between Crown and Bourke streets, be adopted.—The report of the Sewerage Committee, received on the 19th ultimo, recommending that a 12-inch stoneware sewer and three gullies be laid in Oriel-street, at a cost of £120, be adopted.—That the report of the Sewerage Committee, received on the 19th ultimo, recommending on paper that a 12-inch stoneware sewer be laid in Sutton-lane, at a cost of £44, be adopted.—That the report of the Improvement Committee, received on the 19th ultimo, recommending that a public lamp be gettingher be laid in Bourke-street, at a cost of £58, be adopted.—

Seconded by ALDERMAN DAVIES, and carried.

Alderman OATLEY moved,—"That the report of the Water Committee, received on the 19th ultm, recommending that a three-inch watermain be laid at Jomonderran, at a cost of £34, be adopted."—The report at the 10 p.m. meeting was received on the 19th ultm, recommending, on petition, the laying of guttering be laid in Dowling-street, between the South Head Bridge and Taylor-street, at a cost of £38, be adopted.—That the report of the Improvement Committee, received on the 19th ultm, recommending that Rider's lane be ballasted and kerbing and guttering laid, at a cost of £47, be adopted."

Seconded by Aldermen BUTLER, and carried.

PHILIP WARD.

In the absence of

**ALDERMAN MURPHY** moved,—"That the report of the Sewerage Committee, received on the 19th ultimo, recommending that a 22-inch sewerage sewer be laid in Goubran-place, at a cost of £24, be adopted."

The motion was seconded and carried.

DENISON WARD.

**ALDERMAN MURPHY** moved,—"That the plan and section now submitted by the Improvement Committee, showing the permanent level and alignment of Little Bowman-street, off Bowman-street, Pyramont, be, and the same is, hereby adopted.—That the report of the Lighting Committee, received on the 19th ultimo, recommending that a 22-inch sewerage sewer be laid in Goubran-place, at a cost of £24, be adopted."

Seconded by Alderman Woods, and carried.

Alderman Woods moved,—"That the report of the Improvement Committee, received this day, regarding the six gullies be laid at Druiett-street, near Spang-street, is connected with the sewer, at the cost of \$75, be adopted."

Seconded by Alderman MURPHY, and carried.

THE RAILWAY BRIDGE.

Alderman Woods moved,—"That the report of the Improvement Committee, received on the 5th October last, recommending that the sum of \$1500 be voted for widening and otherwise improving the Railway Bridge, George-street, north side, be adopted.

ALDERMAN OATLEY opposed the motion, contending that it was the Government who ought to bear the expense of widening the bridge. He believed that if the alderman were to wait upon the city members of Parliament, and they were requested to bring it before the Legislative Assembly, no difficulty would be found in getting the Parliament to vote necessary amount of money. If, as had been proposed, the railway (ferries) was to be brought into the city, the Government would have to put down two lines of rails, and it would therefore be necessary for them to widen the span of the bridge, and it would be easy for the Government to carry out the proposed improvements at its

Alderman CHASE said the matter was brought into the Council last year, but was put off in order to try and get the Government to bear half the expense of the work. The Government declined to bear any of the expense, and eight or nine months had been lost. The bridge as it stood was positively dangerous, and the widening of it was urgently required for the public safety. He did not see that anything would be gained by delaying the work further, and he should, therefore, support the motion.

Alderman MACINTOSH thought it was ridiculous to

apply to the members of the city, they were scarcely known. He thought it would be better for the Corporation to remove the nuisance, and then if they had a claim upon the Government they could make it after the work was done. He acknowledged that it was the Government's duty to do this work, but said that the Corporation should take place he should support the motion.

Alderman BUTLER maintained that the Government was not acting honestly nor justly in refusing to do the work at least to one-half of the extent required. The proper steps had not, he thought, yet been taken to get the Government to do it, and it would be advisable to let the matter stand over until next session, in order that it might

Alderman STEEL contended that it was the duty of the Government to carry out this most necessary work. The bridge was a most dangerous place, and the work of widening it ought to have been done years ago. He thought every means ought to be tried to get the Government to do this work, believing that it was the Government alone who ought to bear the expense.

Alderman BRADFORD thought, as it was the Government who put the obstruction where it was, it was the duty of the Government to remove it.

Alderman WOODS said that, at the time the bridge was

built, it was made as wide as the street was at the time. Everything that could possibly be done in order to get the Government to bear the expense, or a portion of it, had been done. Four years had elapsed since he first moved in the matter, and the Government still refused to give it any expense in removing this nuisance, and it was useless to delay the work any longer. Accidentally, one of frequent occurrence, and on the other night a man was nearly killed on the bridge by a bus running over him. He hoped the motion would be carried.

The amendment was lost by a majority of 4 to 6. The original motion was carried on a division of 7 to 4.

**Chairman.**—**HUNTER** moved.—"That the report of the

The Improvement Committee received on the 5th October last, recommending that the sum of £2025 be voted for widening and otherwise improving the railway bridge, George-street, south side, be adopted."

Seconded by Alderman WOODS, and carried on a division of 7 to 4.

TENDERS.

The Council proceeded to determine upon tenders for certain works.

For excavation, foundation, &c., for Town-hall, the tender of Messrs Benjamin Rhodes and Son, for the sum of £16,450, was accepted.

For iron palisading at entrance to moort rick, on land of Mr. Bubb, for the sum of £208, was accepted.

For the construction of bath, George-street North, and tenders were ordered to be called for.

For the formation, &c., of Terminus-street, the tender of Mr. John Minogue, for the sum of £55, was accepted.

For the formation, &c., of a portion of Fort-street, the tender of Mr. McDonald, for the sum of £51, was accepted.

For the formation, &c., of Kirkton-lane, the tender of Mr. Adam Sharpe, for the sum of £32, was accepted.

For the ballasting, &c., of Little Elizabeth-street, the tender of Mr. Minogue, for the sum of £19 19s, was

accepted.  
For the ballasting, &c., of Little Bloomfield-street, the tender of Mr. Adam Sharpe, for the sum of £14, was accepted.  
For the ballasting, &c., of Castle-rough-lane, the tender of Mr. Hogan, for the sum of £15 15s., was accepted.  
For building stone wall and pillars at Town-hall enclosure, fresh tenders were ordered to be called for.  
The Council rose at five minutes past 6 o'clock.

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**LIST OF DONATIONS TO THE AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM, DURING MARCH, 1869.**

A lamprey (*Petromyzon*), caught in the Hawkebury River.  
A young brown-handed snake (*Diemasma superciliosus*). By Mr. George M. Pitt, jun.  
Two otomy petrels (*Thalasidroma leucogaster*). By Mr. Gilbert Smith.  
Two silver eels, from Hongkong. By Miss Margaret Bell.  
Two fresh-water fishes (*Cyprinus glabellus* and *C. auratus*). By Mr. J. Moring.  
A diamond snake (*Morerella opistoma*). By Mr. Albert Byrnes.  
A brown-headed snake (*Blaptonophis nerioides*) and a death adder (*Acantrophis antarctica*). By Mr. Reginald G. S. Bramely.  
Two portions of an old Sydney Gannet (1821). By Mr. M. Norton Parker.  
Two bakers (*Diemasma superciliosus*). By Mr. J. C. Loherty.

A young brown snake (*Diemasma superciliosus*). By Mr. Wells.  
A fish (Pallies), with double dorsal spine. By Mr. M. Gorman.  
A silver coin of Queen Elizabeth. By Mr. Frank Senger.  
Section of walrus and hippopotamus teeth. By Mr. Hugh Paterson.  
A collection of insects, reptiles, &c. By Mr. E. W. Reilly.  
A woodrat (*Thasmodon platyrhinus*). By Dr. James C. G. M. S. S.  
A red kangaroo (*Macropus rufus*). By Mr. James F. Reilly.  
Three carp-eel in *Macrura variegata*. By Mr. H. D. White.  
A young Australasian fruit pigeon (*Carpophaga frontalis*). By Mr. William Bell, M. R. C. S.  
A gigantic eel, or "Jabiru" (*Myxeris Australis*). By the

Director of the Botanic Gardens.  
A pair (Ficus gillilandii). By Mr. Dwyer.  
A lizard (Hemidactylus). By Mr. J. F. Josephson.  
A black snake (Pseudochis porphyricus). By Mr. James Bray, jun.  
A sucking fish (Echeneis remora). By Mr. John Sande, jun.  
A stone tomahawk. By the Rev. Eugene Lucien.

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that is stretched over him, ever ready to catch  
up the moment he has struck a knife into his n

“sir. If I swing for it, he says, a man seizes his enemy by the throat. Now, the weight of the death penalty, like that of so many other things, is in the eye of the beholder. I am feeling in our criminal classes—and in this case I include, not only persons already convicted of crimes than murder, but persons whose physiological constitution is such as to predispose them to the commission of crime when opportunity offers—that there are people who are ready to accept the caprice tastes. These are the people upon whom repressive system of punishment rests. The dog that is feeling smothered by a target of a man's boot, I am saying for it comes to mean, “I am brave man; I will not be hindered by the terror of gallows; I will be a hero, and the whole country will be proud of me.” The people who are ready to find a man is really transformed into a hero. You find a man of science, who has spent a long, laborious life in working for the common good, who has been a great benefactor to his country, who has written a long and useful paragraph. You will find a couple of lines, a record of the blank set of death, devoted to a promising artist, that veteran traveler and geographer, who has collected a mass of valuable information, the columns of his favorite journals. But let some ignorant, hulkling clodhopper, or a ferine thief of Whitechapel cut a man's throat and there you are of five years. The details of

appearance are gloated over as if he were an agent from heaven in these later times, instead of being as he is, a creature who makes us wonder. Mr. Thompson can imagine an animal lower in the

The restriction of hanging to the inside of a prison has robbed capital punishment of much of its heinousness. It has not added to it, as parties to the degradation is deprived of his chance of appearing before a large concourse of spectators; but he still enjoys distant adoration of the reporters, and by the side of the gallows he is surrounded by his friends, who discuss upon Continental affairs and the record of Queen's daily doings at Osborne. What is worse is that the criminal shall be made to appear in the eyes of his companions, and the difficulty is to find some means of touching his sense of shame. That difficult venture to believe, can be met by making him feel that he is a disgrace to his country, and that he is a disgrace to his family. If the mistaken humanitarianism of these days disavours the illusion which perpetuates crime, ignorance of the laws which are necessary to the maintenance of order, and the knowledge of the cause and the raising a cry about the torture of criminals.

and raise a cry about the torture of criminals

would be an effectual check upon crime. The besotted brute who has no sense of moral control would fear far more his being sent to the gallows than his being sent to the workhouse. The crowd of his brother rogues, that he would be sent for seven years to the coalgaaf for his kith and kin, with plenty of food, clothing and a wife, would be a powerful inducement to house life. At present the man who gets four years," accepts it with a cheerful audacity; he gets fourteen he is quite proud of it; while he has to be sent to the workhouse he is quite glad. God. We have made our criminal heroes long ago. It is time they should be rendered objects of scornful derision to themselves and to their fellow men. True he must be made to forget his crime, but not his punishment, which is that society does not regard a person punished but the masses of his fellow-men who are punished. The punishment is the workhouse. What is an imprudent kindness to them? Cruelty to them; and they, both in point of mind and in regard to their not having yet made themselves invulnerable to the workhouse, are not invulnerable. The pillory, as it used to be, was a means of inflicting extreme physical torture: a modification might be obtained which should only render the criminal more contemptible. The workhouse is not attached to each of the present punishments but has a wonderful effect in heightening their effect. The shame attendant upon the indication of the workhouse is a powerful inducement to the man in the case of such brutal criminals as garrotes.

that the institution of the lynch had an astoundingly high percentage of cases of genuine insanity points clearly to the fact that a wise and firm action in these matters is the greatest mercy. Once the "sensible" knifer understands that a convicted murderer does not mean merely his being a murderer, but that he is a murderer, he will regard the punishment as rather a good joke, and a conviction for murder does not mean merely being made as much of as if he were a prince of the blood of the court, but that the conviction and execution will secure in addition his being carried to the streets like a caged wild beast, to be jeered by the populace, and laughed at by his kindred. Whatever may be done in this matter, it is imperative that we continue some means to prevent crime less heroic, and more contemptible.

their deaths, not to the inevitable cruelty of war, but to the valour and skill of their opponents, but to negligence and parsimony of the countries which they served. The picture has its lights as well as its shadows, to be found in the efforts made by private citizens to diminish evils of such fearful magnitude. The efforts of the English and American people, and of the English and American armies before Sebastopol, to relieve the accounts of the charity and self-devotion of the Sisters of Charity and Mercy, and of their American sisters, who were sent to the Crimea, to do something more was attended with the most successful results. Northern armies in their first campaign rose with compassion of the whole country, and an enormous fund was established which carried out, on a more extensive scale, the same principle of relief during the latter part of the Crimean war. American Sanitary Commission had no less than 500 local committees, which collected and distributed medical supplies, and sent out 100,000 newspapers, in every part of the Northern States. Two enormous fairs were held at Chicago and

Deph and the funds collected were employed in the relief of the sick and wounded during the war, and also in establishing hospitals, hostels, and homes for the wounded soldiers and sailors were received with the utmost alacrity and care. This was the case in the winter of 1914-1915, when, in September, 1915, the Board of Directors was brought about to an international conference, composed of men whose official or private experience brought them into contact with the horrors of the war, and the maintenance of the Red Cross as a result of this conference was the International Committee for the assistance of the wounded. This committee has since that time, and it appears to be now firmly established, and has been the basis of the work of 1914 and 1915, and is now the basis of the work of 1916. It proposes to attain its end partly by the aid of the different European Governments, and it has already obtained from them the neutralization of the Red Cross and Field Hospitals, but still more by collecting and distributing the funds which are dispensed by the hands of its own volunteer staff and nurses, as well as by means of the various relief societies and charitable societies which are connected with it.

private efforts to diminish the evils of war is found in a despatch of the King of Prussia, Minister of War, dated November 10th, 1864, to the King of Denmark, in which he says, "After the battles in Bohemia and Moravia, constant care and succours of all kinds bestowed upon various charitable societies and many private hospitals, have been the only means of saving the lives of the wounded." "I am," adds Mr. J. Beaulieu, "too fond of war to be able to say that Utopia in 1863 is praised in 1866 by the most practical military administration of Europe, after such a severe test of its efficacy." May we not say that the same may be said of May, which has done so much already, will gradually enlighten the public conscience of the civilised part of the world, and give them a better idea of the evils of even the most necessary and just of wars?

*Month.*

**DISCOVERY OF FRAGMENTS OF THE THIRTEENTH CENTURY.**—A very interesting discovery has been made by a Russian officer, Major-General von Gusev, at the department of the General Staff, in the Imperial Library, at St. Petersburg. He has discovered, in the collection of Pougnet and M. Canon, documents, in manuscript, of the thirteenth century, which are

after the battles in Bohemia and Moravia, t

various charitable societies and many private individuals. "It is curious," adds M. T. de la Roche, "that what was considered Utopia in 1863 is precisely the cradle of the most practical military administration in Europe, after such a severe test of its efficiency as was given it by the war of 1914-18, which has done so much to enlighten the public conscience of the civilised part of the world, and give them a better idea of the value of the most necessary and just of wars?"

**Month.**

**DISCOVERY OF FRASCOS OF THE THIRTEENTH CENTURY.**—A very interesting discovery has been made in the art in the department of the Gers, France, by the architect M. de la Roche, architect of the town of Pougnet and M. Canon, advocate; in examining ancient crypt of the parish church of the village of Pougnet, they discovered, in the wall, beneath the whitewash of the wall, a group of ground sanctuary some frescoes which they believe to be the work of artists of the thirteenth century.

The frescoes represent a king, a priest, a knight and an apostle, each with the aureole, and the crypt is certainly as old as the thirteenth century.

The vault, and the architecture, which is executed in simple and massive lines, is in the style of the original to the secondary Roman style, approaching more nearly to the latter than the former. It is probably the primitive church of the village of Pougnet, the documents relating to the year date 918.



THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, TUESDAY, MAY 11, 1869.

**TELEGRAPHIC MESSAGES**  
[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.]  
**NEWCASTLE.**  
**MORE WRECKS AND LOSS OF LIFE.**  
MONDAY.  
The bows and stern of the schooner Nancy have come ashore on the North Beach, and a gilt figure like

Captain J. Greenley and three hands have just come into town, having walked from Hannah Bay, and report the loss of the Hibernia. Hannah Bay, on the North Beach is strewn with wreck for miles, and large quantities of wreck can be seen floating out to sea.

from Port Macquarie, timber laden bound for Sydney. Met the gale at Bird Island, and, in company with the Don Juan, returned. When off Hannah Bay, the Don Juan ran for the beach. In doing so she was foundered. All hands lost. Captain Greenley then made for the beach more to the southward, and succeeded in beaching his vessel, the Britannia. A

hands saved. On walking along the beach, eight miles to the southward of Haanah Bay, saw the wreck of the schooner Eagleton. All hands lost. The latter vessel was quite new, lately built on the Williams. The Britannia is insured.

**ARALUEN.**

**MONDAY**

The weather is clearing. Six claims are filed in and the damage is serious; there were some narrow escapes from drowning.

MUDGEES. MONDAY.

The Mudgee Turf Club guarantee a fourth day's races, and give a prize of fifty sovereigns; one sovereign

**GRAFTON.** MONDAY.  
The schooner *Lizze Blair*, Captain *Laurie*, from Sydney, in ballast, when entering the Richmond River, owing to the wind suddenly falling light drifted on to the South Spit; she is making much water, and

likely to become a total wreck.  
The Helen Macgregor (s.) sails to-morrow.  
The weather is fine with a cold bracing wind.

**BRISBANE.**

**MONDAY.**

Welkie has been committed for trial on two charges  
and further charges will be heard on Wednesday.

An influential meeting of the Chamber of Commerce took place; the Ministers, the Speaker, the President, and several members of both Houses of Parliament, were present, to hear the statement of Mr. Robert Toth, proposing a Torres' Straits mail service to meet the China fortnightly mail at Singapore for Queensland and New Zealand; the statement

The Hon. John Hubert Plunkett died yesterday afternoon.

**QUEENSCLIFF.**

MONDAY.

**ARRIVED.**—Humboldt, French barque, from Cherente.

**SAILED.**—Triton, French barque, for Newcastle.

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**BODY FOUND IN THE HARBOUR.**—The dead body of

infant was found yesterday floating in the waters of the harbour, near the Market Wharf, by a seaman belonging to a schooner which was anchored near the spot. On being taken out of the water, the body was carried ashore, and given into the charge of the police, who had it conveyed to the dead-house of the Benevolent Asylum, where it will undergo an examination by Dr. Renwick, prior to an inquest or inquiry, which will probably take place to-morrow. When taken out of the water, the body was unrecognisable, with the exception of a piece of canvas or coarse oil-

THE LATE EXHIBITION.—Mr. Emanuel, son, of 17 Pitt-street, exhibited a small bottle of colonial aromatic vinegar at the Agricultural Show, which is considered by some chemists as equal, if not superior, in strength to the imported article. The vinegar received an "honorary mention" from the judges. A second prize was also awarded for the Warraumbool farina, manufactured by Aitken and Paterson. The first prize for cheese was awarded to Q. C. and E. Farran, and not to the Bodalla.

**TOWN-HALL, NEWTOWN.**—This building, lately the School of Arts, having been purchased by the Municipal Council for a Town-hall, was publicly opened last night by a literary and musical entertainment, in which amateurs from Sydney lent their gratuitous assistance, for the benefit of a free library for the borough. The programme was a very attractive one, comprising songs and recitations, and the laughable farce of "O'Callaghan and Last Legs." Amongst the most noticeable pieces were those written by Robertus, a.n.h. ad. and "Cynthia" (the name of the actress).

the Rye," by Miss Kasten, both of which were described and  
 honored. The same compliment was also paid to Mr. Gray  
 for his song, "My dear old Wife and I," and "the Bashful  
 Man," and Mr. W. Calder for the recitations, "M'Glad's  
 and the Starch," and the "Womnery Wean." The songs  
 "I never can forget," and "Winter log" were very much  
 rendered by Mr. Brady, and Mr. Stephenson did full jus-  
 tice to "Comed the Milice," "The Well of St. Kyril"  
 and "Spanish Champion" were also beautifully recited  
 by Mr. Brady. The entire evening was a grand suc-

reedy G'rahan on his last legs," in which the part of the reedy G'rahan was well sustained by Mr. Calder to the pleasure of the castably assisting him in his endeavours to please the audience, who testified their satisfaction by continued rounds of applause. Mr. Holt occupied the chair, and Mr. J. Conley gave every satisfaction as accompanist. We understand that in consequence of a large number of persons being unable to get admittance the concert will be repeated.

THE PRINCE OF WALES OPERA HOUSE.—In the production of "Antony and Cleopatra" the management of this theatre have essayed a task which few caterers to public amusement now care to venture upon. The play is the original is not such as would find favour with the playgoers of the present day, and the best playing version of "Calvert"—is one that calls for the engagement of a large and efficient company, and for the expenditure of capital in the spectacular effects. At the present time there is a

company in the colonies so capable of giving it effectively that which Mr. Hoskins has the management of, and so theatre in which it could have been produced with great effect. Prior to last evening it was never produced in Sydney and Mr. Montgomery's name will, therefore, be indelibly connected with it as regards the history of the Byrdian stage. To say that as a magnificent spectacle it was a success would be giving but a faint acknowledgment of the vociferous applause by which the audience testified their approval. Nor was it more enthusiastic than deserved.

Amongst the most prominent were, the gully scene, the close of the third act, and the finale, all masterpieces in their way. The costumes also of the whole of the characters were historically correct, and such added to the enjoyment of all students of history. Mr. Montgomery, who played "Marc Antony," fulfilled the nicest requirements of the part, dressed magnificently, and portrayed to the life the brave soldier who became a martyr to the noblest cause of his age. His performance was a masterpiece when lured by the siren daughter of Egypt.

One of his finest points was in the last act, where, brooding over the spell he becomes for a time a noble Roman, and his scene with Eroa elicited well-deserved plaudits. Miss Cooper, as "Cleopatra," exalted herself, and a more artistic performance could not have been wished for. If there was a fault, it was that she played it as a woman loving life, not as the voluptuous disciple of Isis. Her last scene with "Procuretus" was very fine, and the whole part was well sustained. Mr. Hoskins as "Pompey" had little to do, but that little was so well done that the

audience seemed to wish he had more. Mr. Bartlett was a fine representative of "Octavius Caesar," he looked as if he dressed the character impossibly, and his clear, strong, full-toned voice was such as might have been expected from the youthful conqueror of his fellow triumvir. The distinguished "Lepidus" was most humorously represented by Mr. G. Young. Mr. Velaz as "Emoberus" surprised all who witnessed his performance, and few who have with him seen his special line of characters could have believed him capable of such a display of tragic acting. Mr. Anderson

**METHOD OF IMPROVING POOR COAL.**—It is stated that a Swiss professor of mineralogy has discovered a method of converting poor coal into a fuel coal with

means of communicating to the whole country the abundance in the valley of the Alps all the qualities of the best fossil English coal. The process employed consists of an inexpensive chemical preparation in which the coal of the Alps is mixed with naphtha and bitumen, obtained in large quantities from the Apennines. Should the expectations formed be realised, Italy would no longer require to import coal. It is stated that the plan is already in use

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Wilde or Weld, but Colonel Bruce has expected.

**COMMERCIAL.**

Money is plentiful.  
Bank discount 4 per cent.  
Consols 93½.  
Less speculation in foreign stocks.  
Australian securities are in good request.  
Victorian Government debentures are injured by the failure of the new loan.

**Colonial securities:** Victorian sixes, Jan. July, 113; ditto, April-October, 113½; South Wales fives, 1871-76, January, 100; ditto fives, 1888 to 1895, January, 99; ditto, 1868 to 1878, 100; New Zeal. fives, consolidated, 95½; ditto sixes, March-September, 107; Queensland January-July, 107½; ditto, 1891, 107; Australian Government securities, 1891-1908, January-July, 108½.

Hobson's Bay Railway, 53; ditto, 1880, sixes, 100; ditto, 1895, fives, 92.

Tenders for the Victorian railway 5 per cent. loan of £2,107,000 were opened on the 10th March at the London and Westminster Exchange. The total amount tendered for was £2,320,000, of which was above the minimum, which sold at par; the committee of the Associated Bank thereupon gave notice that they would receive applications for the balance of the loan at and above par on Friday, March 12th. Tenders for the unallotted portion were consequently opened on March 12th; when the total amount tendered for at and above par (the fixed minimum) was only £347,400, of which £85,700 was above par, the highest being only £100 12s. 6d. The result of the loan was held over until the receipt of fresh instructions from the Victorian Government. The *Times* says the failure was a natural result of a too exacting policy. *Daily News* thinks par too high, for Colonial per cents. stock; also, that a deposit of £100,000 would have been required, and the price should have been publicly announced. The management of the Victorian Government is universally denounced.

The Turkish loan of £2,480,000 has been introduced on several European bourses; a total failure in London.

A Russian railway loan of £2,500,000 negotiated at Amsterdam.

**WOOL REPORT.**

The wool sales closed on 24th March, with a recovery; the decline gradually settled to a general reduction of 1d. to 1½d., to 2d. per lb., verging upon the most depressed portion of last year's sales; towards the conclusion the declines were somewhat less irregular; the reduced quotations arise from the enormous increase in the supply. 136,637 bales are allowed for next sales, which begin on 1st May. Arrived—New South Wales, 67,898 bales; Queensland, 15,144 bales; Victoria, 52,399; Tasmania, 590; Australia, 28,355; New Zealand, 3753; Australia, 804; Cape, 33,747.

**PRODUCE MARKET.**

**HIDES.**—Of 2204 salted Australian, or was sold; Sydney first heavy, 58½ lbs. at first light, 45s. at 5½d.; second, 4½d.

**LEATHER.**—At auction 128 bales, containing 4859 sides of Australian, met with less demand than a small part was sold at 4s. per lb. The best sides 15½ to 18½ lbs. at 1½d. to 1½d. light, 10½ lbs. at 1½d.; of 86 bales of Australian bailes, about 25 bales sold at 7½d. per lb.

**TALLOW.**—Australian mutton, 45s. 4d.; mixed 40s. 6d. to 4s. 9d.; beef, 43s. 6d. The demand is slack.

Petroleum has receded gradually to 1s. 6d.

Sydney cocoanut oil, £40 to £45 6s., and sold freely; wheat has had a heavy fall.

**COPPER.**—The market is unsteady. Sydney and Wallaroo £82 to £83.

**EXPORTS.**

**EXPORTS FOR THE MONTH.**—To Sydney £239,834; decrease, £130,132. To Victoria £315,867, increase £8914.

**EXPORTS TO SYDNEY PER STEAMER.**

**CARGO.**—Bar and rod iron, 308 tons; hoop iron, 55 tons; plate iron, 232 tons; pig iron, 10 tons; sheet iron, 17 tons; galvanized iron, 10 tons; wire and wire rope, 31 tons; seed oil, 13,192 gallons; rape, 10,192 gallons; olive oil, 216 gallons; wool, 3542; cornsacks, 3324; gunpowder, 100 cwt.; tobacco, 45,260 lbs.; brandy, 10,192 gallons; rum, 12,104 gallons; red wine, 10,192 gallons; white wine, 7859 gallons; beer, 4455 gallons; beer, glass, 1036 gallons; salt, 742 tons; candles, British, 360 cwt.; foreign, 1293 cwt.; currants, 100 cwt.; cheese, 179 cwt.; bacon and ham, 100 cwt.; malt, 840 quarters; hops, 202 cwt.; fish, £90.

**SHIPPING.**

**ARRIVALS.**

FROM SYDNEY.—Martha Birnie, Racehorse. March 22, Matsara (s.).

FROM MELBOURNE.—Bradmont, Fish Castle.

**DEPARTURES.**

FOR SYDNEY.—Atlantic, Jubi, Strath Duke of Wellington, Peck, Wangan, Dh Bateswater, Rifleman.

FOR MELBOURNE.—British Prince,











